



VARIETY OF GERANIUM PLANT NAMED 'PENNEA

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of *Pelargonium peltatum* known by the varietal name 'Pennea'. The new variety was discovered in 1996 in a selective breeding program in Dresden, Germany. The new variety is a result of a combination breeding and embryo rescue in a group of 6 proprietary seedlings. None of the parent seedlings are patented or the subject of the application. The new variety was first asexually reproduced in 1997 by vegetative propagation by cuttings in Dresden, Germany. The new variety has been trial and field tested and has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics and remain true to type through successive propagations.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photographic drawing illustrates the new variety, with the color being as nearly true as is possible with color illustrations of this type.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following detailed description sets forth the characteristics of the new cultivar at an age of 9 months, grown in a basket having a 23 cm diameter. The new cultivar is different from its parents in having the rosette-type flowers, the leaves are not odema susceptible and the flowers are shinier. The data which defines these characteristics were collected by asexual reproductions by cuttings carried out in Dresden, Germany. The color readings were taken outdoors in shadow during summer. Color references are primarily to the R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London.

PLANT

Classification:

Botanical: *Pelargonium peltatum*.

Commercial: Ivy geranium.

Form: Hanging.

Height from media surface to top of foliage: 25 cm.

Width: 40 cm.

Trailing length: 70-120 cm.

Strength: Does not require artificial support.

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Response time: 4 weeks.

Leaves:

Size: 8-10 cm long.
Width: 8-10 cm.
Shape: Ivy-shaped.
Margin: Emarginated, or entire with lobes.
Texture: Hairy.
Color: Upper surface is Green Group 137A.
Lower surface is Green Group 137D.
Rib Color: Green Group 138B.
Vein Color: Green Group 138B.

Petioles:

Color: Green Group 138A.
Diameter: 0.2 cm.
Length: 3-4 cm.

Stem/branches:

Color: Green Group 137B.
Internode length: 4-6 cm.

THE BUD

Shape when just showing color:

Overall: Semi-spherical.
Individual bud: Elliptical.

Color: Green Group 139B.

Size when just showing color:

Umbel: 7-9 cm across.
Individual bud: 1.0-1.5 cm long; 1.0 cm wide.

INFLORESCENCE

Blooming habit: Double.

Size of fully open bloom: 5-6 cm across.

Borne: Umbel; umbel on pedicel; pedicel on peduncle.

Umbel:

Diameter: 4 cm.

Depth: 2 cm.

Inflorescences: 150-200 per plant per season.

Flowers:

Form: Zygomorph.

Number of petals: 24.

Size: 1-2.5 cm across.

Petals:

Apex: Round.

Base: Pointed.

Margin: Smooth.

Color:

Upper surface: Red-Purple Group 66B.

Lower surface: Red-Purple Group 74B.

Texture and appearance: Velvety.

Petaloids: Absent.

Sepals:

Quantity: 6-9.

Length: 1.0 cm.

Width: 0.3 mm.

Apex: Pointed.

Base: Wide.

Margin: Smooth.

Color: Green Group 137B.

Pedicel:

Length: 2.0-2.5 cm.

Color: Green Group 138A.

Peduncle:

Length: 9.0-11.0 cm.

Color: Green Group 138A.

Disease/pest resistance: No susceptibility to diseases or pests has been noted to date.

Lasting Quality: Long-lasting; 2 weeks per umbel.

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Stamens:

Anthers: 3 mm long.

Filaments:

Length: 0.5 cm maximum.

Color: Bright pink.

Pollen: Yellow.

Pistils:

Number: One with five parts.

Length: 0.3-0.4 cm.

Stigma: Pink in color.

Style: 0.8 cm long.

Ovaries:

Color: Greenish.

Length: 0.4 cm.

Fruit: Not present.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

1. Very intense and shiny purple flower color.
2. Early flowering.
3. Vigorous growth habit.
4. Suitable for hanging baskets.
5. Flowering season is spring until frost.